CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: Manhattan

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1700125.000

Medium: DVD

Director: Woody Allen

Producer: Charles H. Joffe

Country of origin: United States

Language: English

Applicant: The New Zealand Film Festival Trust

Classification:	Unrestricted: Suitable for mature audiences 16 years of age and over.

Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: Contains offensive language and sexual references.

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 05 April 2017

Date of direction to issue a label: 05 April 2017

Date of notice of decision: No notice of decision has been issued

	Components	**Running time**
Feature(s):	Manhattan	92:15
Total running time:		92:15

Summary of reasons for decision:

The 1979 American romantic comedy was written and directed by Woody Allen, who stars in the leading role. It relates the emotional travails of Isaac Davis who is in a relationship with Tracy, a 17-year-old high school student. The film was most recently classified in New Zealand by the Chief Censor of Films on 1 July 1981 as R16 with a descriptive note for offensive language (CCF Ref: 38452 (f)). The film has been submitted by the New Zealand Film Festival Trust under s42 of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 for reconsideration of that classification, because of the time that has elapsed since that decision. The film's adult themes and the limited use

of sexual references and offensive language are part of a conversational narrative unlikely to cause injury to the public good. While the subject matter may be confrontational to some, these elements are part of a verbose and amusing narrative and in this context are unlikely to cause harm to younger viewers. However, the presence of this material means that the film is more suitable for a mature audience. The unrestricted classification given to this publication does not impose any limitations on the right to freedom of expression guaranteed by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.